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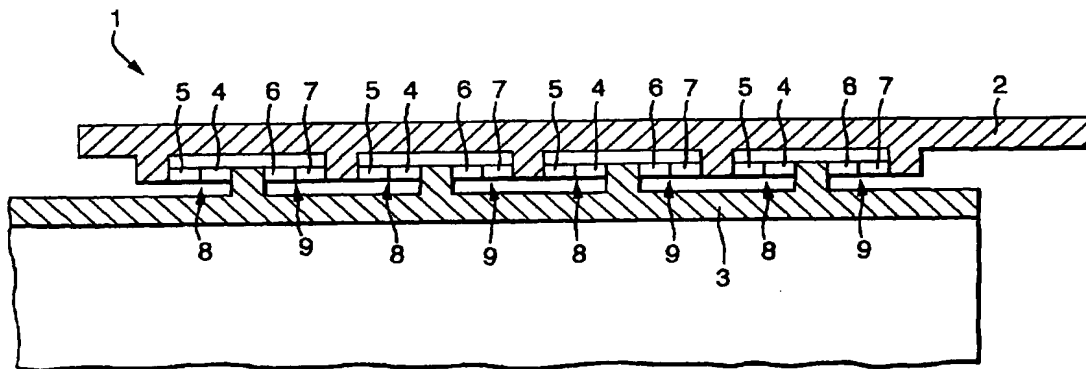
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except CA, US): **SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.** [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).
- (71) Applicant (for CA only): **SHELL CANADA LIMITED** [CA/CA]; 400 - 4th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H5 (CA).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **ROGGE BAND, Serge, Mathieu** [NL/NL]; Volmerlaan 8, NL-2288 GD Rijswijk (NL).
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(54) Title: BORE HOLE TOOL ASSEMBLY, BEARING SYSTEM FOR USE IN SUCH A BORE HOLE TOOL ASSEMBLY, AND METHOD OF DESIGNING SUCH A BORE HOLE TOOL ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: Bore hole tool assembly (1) comprising a housing (2) and a mandrel (3) reaching along an axial direction into the housing and a bearing system for transferring an axial load between the housing and the mandrel and allowing rotation of the housing relative to and about the mandrel, wherein the bearing system comprises at least two bearing stages (8, 9) each arranged to transfer part of the axial load, whereby each bearing stage comprises bearing means (4, 6) and mitigation means (5, 7) for distributing the load substantially proportionally over the respective bearing stages.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/50996

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 E21B4/00 F16C41/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 E21B F16C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X          | US 5 074 681 A (TURNER WILLIAM E ET AL)<br>24 December 1991 (1991-12-24)<br>column 3, line 49 -column 4, line 43;<br>figure 2 | 1-5,7                 |
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ott, S

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